

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 DJIBOU 00395 101045Z

ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 EUR-12 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00

DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00

PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 HA-05

ACDA-12 /110 W

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O R 200845Z MAR 78

FM AMEMBASSY DJIBOUTI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0777

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY SANA

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

USINT HAVANA

USMISSION USUN NY

USCINCEUR

CINCUSNAVEUR

CINCPAC

CINCPACFLT

COMIDEASTFOR

USS FOX

S E C R E T DJIBOUTI 0395

E.O.11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: MOPS, PBOR, ET, SO

SUBJECT: POSSIBILITY SOMALI STRAGGLERS AND ETHIOPIAN BORDER

INCURSION REPORTED

SECRET

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PAGE 02 DJIBOU 00395 101045Z

REF: DJIBOUTI 0363

1. FRENCH DIPLOMATIC SOURCE REPORTED TO EMBASSY 19 MARCH OF RECENT FIRM INDICATIONS SOMALI REGULAR ARMY STRAGGLERS ATTEMPTING RETURN TO SOMALIA. THEY HAVE BEEN NOTED IN HILLY AREA BETWEEN FILTU AND DOLO IN THE SOUTHERN OGADEN. NUMBER OF MEN INVOLVED IS

NOT KNOWN, BUT EVIDENTLY THEY HAVE BEEN IN RADIO COMMUNICATION WITH THEIR MILITARY UNITS IN SOMALIA. FRENCH INDICATE THAT DEPARTURE THESE MEN WAS INTERDICTED WHEN ETHIOPIANS TOOK POSSESSION OF DOLO, THE CRITICAL TRANSPORT HUB AT FRONTIER, MORE QUICKLY THAN HAD BEEN EXPECTED. BECAUSE DOLO WAS TAKEN WELL IN ADVANCE ETHIOPIAN COLUMNS DRIVING SOUTH, FRENCH SUSPECT THAT PARATROOPERS MAY HAVE BEEN USED TO RECAPTURE DOLO AS HAD BEEN DONE IN EARLIER AT JIJIGA.

2. IN ANOTHER REPORT FROM SAME SOURCE, ETHIOPIAN AIR UNITS EVIDENTLY ATTACKED WSLF GROUP AS IT WAS CROSSING FRONTIER NORTH OF BORAMA THREE OR FOUR DAYS AGO. SOME BOMBS FELL INSIDE SOMALIA, KILLING SEVEN OR EIGHT PEOPLE. IN AN INTERESTING NOTE, SOMALIS ON THE SCENE REPORTED THAT NEW TYPE OF BOMB WAS USED IN THIS ATTACK. BOMBS DESCRIBED AS BEING BLACK, APPARENTLY RUBBER COVERED, WITH EXTREME DETONATION POWER. FRENCH SOURCE INDICATED THAT WEAPON MAY BE CONCUSSION BOMB, AND WOULD BE THE FIRST SUCH REPORTED USE OF THIS WEAPON BY ETHIOPIANS.

3. HAVE THE SOVIETS USED THE OGADEN WAR GENERALLY TO TEST OUT NEW WEAPONS SYSTEMS?

CLARKE

NOTE BY OC/T: MESSAGE DELAYED IN TRANSMISSION.

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 20 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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